

SCOOP THE CUB REPORTER

The Innermost Working of Scoop's Mind

"By Hop"



POSTAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE MERGED AS IMPERATIVE REFORM

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Asserting that for the first time since its organization by Benjamin Franklin, the post office department is on a self-sustaining basis, Postmaster General Burleson submitted to President Wilson today his annual report. It records enormous growth in the department's business because of the parcels post and postal savings bank divisions and recommends a program of postal legislation to increase the scope of the department's activities.

Mr. Burleson features his report with an estimate that a surplus of \$3,569,545, the second of his administration, will be shown for the fiscal year of 1914 when all claims and charges have been met. On that showing he bases his declaration that the department "has been securely placed upon a self-sustaining basis."

"It is safe to say," the report adds, "that unless unusual conditions should arise, resulting in abnormal depression of business, there is no danger of recurring deficiencies."

The legislative program recommended is as follows as to its most important features:

Government Ownership.
Early action toward government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines and immediate taking over of these systems in Hawaii, Alaska, and Porto Rico. Transfer of the Alaska cable from war to post office department control.

Substitution of contract "star route" system for salaried rural carrier service to eliminate \$40,000,000 loss on rural delivery.

Post office co-operation with state governments in road building where improvements insure better postal service.

Raising maximum balance acceptable at postal banks from \$500 to \$2,000, interest payments to be limited to \$1,000. Removal of monthly deposit limit restriction.

Aerial mail service, where topography warrants, and extension of motor truck and automobile service in view of recent successful experiments.

Passage by senate of pending bill providing space basis of compensation for railroads on mail carried instead of weight basis.

Pending change in rural delivery system, computation of carriers' salaries on basis of services performed, dependent on bulk of mail carried, to stimulate business.

Readjustment of postmasters' salaries on basis of changes in business handled due to parcel post development.

Raising of second-class rates on publications other than newspapers issued once a week from one to two cents a pound.

Granting the department legal jurisdiction over selection of sites and designs for postal buildings.

Of the parcel post during the last year the report says:

"Rapid growth of the parcel post vastly increased postal business during the year. The department's field of service has expanded at a phenomenal rate; it is still expanding. Notwithstanding the decrease of parcel-post rates authorized January 1, 1914, economies of administration have kept expense within the revenues."

Of the department's financial condition the report says:

Financial Report.

"The postal revenues for 1914 amounted to \$287,934,565.67, an increase over the preceding year of slightly less than 8 per cent, as compared with a corresponding increase of slightly more than 8 per cent for 1913. The audited expenditures for the year amounted to \$283,543,769.16, and the adjusted losses due to fire, burglary, etc., to \$14,533.46. The excess of audited revenues over audited expenses and losses is, therefore, \$4,376,463.05."

"This audited surplus does not, however, represent the actual financial results for the year. It involves comparison of amounts that are not properly comparable. It does not include obligations which are incurred but not paid within the year, while it does include some payments on account of obligations incurred in prior years."

A statement follows of revenues and expenses based upon the reported revenues and the estimated expenses of the service for that year and the report adds:

"On this basis, the revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, are found to exceed by \$3,569,545 the expenses for maintenance during the same period. While the announcement establishes confidence in the fact that the service is being economically administered, it must be borne in mind that of the convenience and benefit provided the public, which must be secured irrespective of the financial outlay required."

"The surplus for the year just closed, though substantial in amount, necessarily represents an approximate adjustment of revenues and disbursements, made possible by economies in administration; compared with the volume of transactions; it is believed, therefore, that a recommendation for the reduction of postage rates or fees is not warranted at this time."

Postal Telegraph.
Reviewing his recommendations for government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines, Mr. Burleson says:

"The postmaster general renews the recommendation embodied in his last annual report that congress seriously consider the question of declaring a government monopoly over all utilities for the public transmission of intelligence to incorporate into the postal establishments the telegraph and telephone systems of the country."

"In that report reference was made to the anomalous condition in this country under which the telegraph and telephone utilities, being vehicles for the public transmission of intelligence, infringe upon a function reserved by the constitution to the national government. They inherently, as well as constitutionally, belong to the postal service. The firm conviction of the department is here reiterated that telegraph and telephone service is inevitably monopolistic and, when operated under private control, does not render the maximum of public service at the minimum cost to the whole people."

"It is an interesting fact that, whereas policies of government have been advocated and some adopted, the constitutionality of which have been seriously questioned, the principle of government ownership and control of the telegraph and telephone finds its greatest strength in the constitution. This opinion has been shared by practically all postmasters general of the United States, who have held that the welfare and happiness of the nation depend upon the fullest utilization of these agencies by the people, which can only be accomplished through government ownership."

Immediate Ownership.
"It is also recommended that the telegraph and telephone facilities of Alaska, Porto Rico and the Hawaiian Islands be at once taken over and operated in Alaska by the war department and in Porto Rico by the insular government. The services are so detached geographically as to preclude complicated relationships with neighboring systems and are yet sufficient in extent to afford valuable experimental demonstration of the postal service looking to the administration eventually of a complete national service. This action will have the effect of strengthening the national government in its outlying territories, and is especially recommended because of the expediency of taking over the private ownerships before elaborate and costly extensions and duplications of service have been built up."

SUE FOR POSSESSION OF VALUABLE CLAIMS

Dr. R. K. Hartzell and W. E. Vaughn, of Reno, through their attorney, James G. Sweeney, today filed the necessary legal papers in the district court asking that an injunction be issued against the Peer Gold Mining company, and Gurney Gordon and Harry Cutler, the principal stockholders of the company, restraining them from going on the property formerly operated by the company in the Como mining district.

Hartzell and Vaughn relocated the claims early this year, title having lapsed owing to the failure of the defendants to comply with the law governing the annual assessment work. Soon after locating the property the plaintiffs placed a force to work developing the group with the result that valuable ore was uncovered. Recently the former owners attempted to take possession of the claim, hence the injunction proceedings.

The school trustees are considering the advisability of starting a new first grade in the latter part of January. It will depend upon how many are ready for entrance. Parents wishing to enter children at that time please communicate at once with the superintendent of schools. Children must be six or nearly six. D10-7t

If you bought nothing but advertised goods during the next twelve months, you'd reduce the cost and raise the standard of living—surprisingly!

RUSS COLONISTS ON NEVADA LANDS

AGENTS LOOK FOR SUITABLE LANDS IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY.

During the past summer there were several parties in Humboldt county looking for suitable lands on which could be placed families of colonists from Russia. Whether or not any of them were able to secure the land which they deemed suitable for their purpose cannot be learned at this time, although it is said that interested parties are still at work on at least one of these projects. Twenty-one Russian families have been placed on farms to the north of Reno along the line of the Nevada-California-Oregon railway and it is said that in the first part of April about thirty more families will move there to take up their homes and cultivate the soil under much better conditions than those prevailing in the districts of northern Siberia, whence they came.

The Russians, Slavonians and Austrians take most naturally to farming for the reason that this was their principal occupation in the old country.

Colonies of this sort are usually recruited in the cities. Each family when ready to move onto a farm, possesses from \$2,000 to \$4,000, which is acquired after about two years' work in this country. The immigrants land in the cities and there they work industriously, living frugally and saving remarkably. They are not at home in the cities and there is a large percentage that is subject to the accidents of city life because of their unfamiliarity. There are more than 750 Russians at the present time employed at the Union Iron Works in San Francisco. They are known as Molechians and are good workers. They learn the language but slowly and are not distracted by the ordinary diversions. They do not smoke or drink. They keep in mind constantly the ambition to have a farm and raise alfalfa, wheat and stock under climatic conditions which are regarded as mild compared with the rigors they left.—Humboldt Star.

CLEANING SUPREME COURT CALENDAR

WITH CLOSE OF YEAR COURT WILL WIPE NUMBER OF OLD CASES OFF DOCKET.

That the members of the supreme court intend to clear the docket of a number of old cases has been made apparent by the action of the court after a conference of Justices Norcross and McCarra with Chief Justice Talbot Saturday afternoon. Six cases, five on appeal, and one for argument, were dismissed. The case of John S. Cook county, respondent, versus the Lincoln County Lumber company, appellant, was settled out of court and an order was entered dismissing the appeal subject to the right to move to reinstate within sixty days.

The litigation of John T. Overbury, Tasker L. Oddie and Clarence Oddie, respondents, versus the Bullfrog Apex Mining and Milling company, for which the transcript on appeal was filed with the court on September 14, 1908, and no briefs ever having been filed as required by the rules of the court, and no requests having been made for any disposition of the case by counsel, was ordered stricken from the calendar.

The case of Eugene Schuler, respondent, versus Mamie L. Golden, executrix of the estate of Frank Golden, deceased, appellant, before the court on a petition for a rehearing, was denied.

The rehearing of the cause of James Golden versus H. A. McKim on appeal from damages awarded by a previous opinion of the court, took the same course, petition being denied.

The case of the United States Fidelity and Guaranty company, appellant, versus E. Marks, et al., respondents, which has occupied the attention of the courts of this state for several years, was finally disposed of when the court denied the petition for a rehearing.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.
Tonopah, December 9, 1914.

By an order of the Nevada Tax Commission and by the county commissioners of Nye county, the date of delinquency is extended to Monday, January 4th, 1915.

N. K. FRANKLIN,
Treasurer and Ex-Officio Tax Collector. D 9-19

Phone 1132 for Miss Manville to call at your home and demonstrate the Gillette cornet. D12

In the Fifth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, in and for Nye County.

In the matter of the estate of Henry E. Eck, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Herman J. Eck has filed with the clerk of said court, a petition praying for the admission to probate of an instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of Henry E. Eck, deceased, and for hearing the application of Herman J. Eck for the issuance to him of letters testamentary thereon; and that Thursday, the 24th day of December, 1914, at 10 o'clock a. m., the same being a day of the regular session of said court, at the court house, and in the court room thereof in the town of Tonopah, said county and state, has been set by the clerk for the hearing of said petition, when and where any person interested may appear and show cause why said petition should not be granted.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand officially, and affixed the seal of said court, this 14th day of December, 1914.

ROBERT G. POHL,

County Clerk, Nye County, Nevada,

and Ex-Officio Clerk of said Court.

H. R. COOKE,

Attorney for Petitioner. D14

ELKS'

CHARITY BALL

AT

GOLDFIELD

December 15, 1914

Special Train

Leaves Tonopah 7:00 p. m.

Returning, leaves Goldfield

3:45 a. m. Dec. 16th

A BIG TIME GUARANTEED

BY THE BEST PEOPLE ON EARTH

Fare, Round Trip, \$2.00

ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

Tonopah Gipsy Queen Mining Company.

Location of principal place of business, San Francisco, California. Location of works, Tonopah, Nye County, Nevada.

Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the 1st day of December, 1914, an assessment (No. 5) of one (1) cent per share was levied upon the capital stock of the corporation, payable immediately in United States gold coin, to the Secretary, at the office of the Company, Room 265, Russ Building, San Francisco, California.

Any stock upon which this assessment shall remain unpaid on the 12th day of January, 1915, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, will be sold on Tuesday, the 16th day of February, 1915, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with the cost of advertising and expenses of sale.

By order of the Board of Directors.
CHARLES D. OLNEY,
Secretary.

Office, Room 265 Russ Building, San Francisco, California. D8-J12

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